

From: [REDACTED]
To: "Katie.Ignatowski@wisconsin.gov"
Subject: judicial appointment
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Attachments: Recommendation.ltrs.Paul.Dedinsky.2014.pdf

Hi Katie,

Hope you had a splendid thanksgiving with your family.

First off, thank you for your call last Tuesday. Grateful for your kind words. Although the news was disappointing on a personal level, please know that I thoroughly appreciated the opportunity to prepare the application and interview for the judicial vacancy. You, Michael, and Andrew are such accomplished professionals. You did a marvelous job with the entire selection process. For me, I learned a lot, which made the experience worthwhile. Also, Brad is a tremendous attorney and (perhaps most importantly) a really good person. He will do a wonderful job.

Since we spoke last Tuesday, I've thought a great deal about the Milwaukee judicial vacancies. If at all possible, Katie, I would love to pursue it. As a family, my wife, [REDACTED] and kids are very supportive. This coming February, my dad [REDACTED] and my mom [REDACTED]. They would love for me to be in Whitefish Bay, close by them. My [REDACTED] goes to [REDACTED], so [REDACTED] is a big fan of dad being so conveniently close to him.

Also, Katie, if the Governor decided to appoint me, there are several pluses. In emphasizing a few items particular to my background, my selection would give Governor Walker an opportunity to again highlight his support for a number of important and popular initiatives, such as:

(1) **Combatting Domestic Violence.** My commitment to domestic abuse victims, in directing the Milwaukee DA's DV unit for nearly six years;

(2) **Combatting Sexual Assaults & Child Abuse.** In over 20 years of service as an Assistant DA in Milwaukee, particularly my work as a prosecutor of sexual assault and child abuse cases;

(3) **Restorative Justice.** Assistance to schools in coordinating MPS' very popular restorative justice program over a span of five and a half years, coupled with academic scholarship in selecting restorative practices in schools as my dissertation topic;

(4) **Teaching.** Serving law students and undergrads at Marquette University as an adjunct professor; Serving students in the business school and education/leadership doctoral program at Cardinal Stritch University as an adjunct professor; Serving police officers as a law enforcement trainer at MATC and the City of Milwaukee Police Academy;

(5) **Youth Law Day.** Annually coordinating Youth Law Day at Marquette Law School for MPS and private school students from 2010 to the present.

(6) **Faith Formation.** Serving educators and youth within the Archdiocese of Milwaukee as a faith formation teacher for the past five years and Christian formation teacher for confirmands; and

(7) Heroin/Opioid Addiction. Serving as the prosecutor for the Family Drug Treatment Court, in support of the treatment efforts of heroin addicts.

When applying for a judicial vacancy in 2014, plenty of friends and colleagues wrote letters of support. Those letters are attached.

I am confident that many additional people, respected by Milwaukee County voters, would be willing to provide statements for an announcement supporting the decision to select me, such as: E. Michael McCann, John Chisholm, Janine Geske (from our restorative justice work/teaching together), Judge Mary Triggiano (from our collaborative work on the Family Drug Treatment Court), Judge Joe Donald (the Children's Court chief judge who has been my "go to" judge for youth law day on a half dozen different occasions in the past), Liz Marquardt and Michelle Coppens (good friends and long-time colleagues from Sojourner Family Peace Center), Chris Her-Xiong (Hmong American Peace Academy principal and recently named to the Evers transition team), and Dr. Kristi Cole (good friend, formerly of MPS and currently at Milwaukee College Prep). I also have positive relationships with many Milwaukee judges, including retiring Judges Mary Kuhnmuensch and Rick Sankovitz, as well as Clerk of Courts John Barrett and current Milwaukee Police Association President Mike Crivello.

When you have the chance to do so, please let me know if this might be a possibility: Dan Sievert has in his possession the completed background check form for my Waukesha application. Of course, you have my permission to utilize the same form for the judicial vacancy in Milwaukee as well. As an added note, when under consideration in 2014, WI DOJ told me that I passed their full-scale background check as well.

Regardless of the outcome, Katie, thank you for the opportunity to serve as the chief legal at DATCP. I fondly recall the day you, Matt Moroney, and I met in your office for the first time back in 2016. Thanks for trusting me to become part of a team of outstanding, dedicated professionals. It has been a great experience and honor to serve the people of Wisconsin in this capacity.

Best, Paul

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